

S R I A

Suggested Discussion Document 1

This may contain a quick, potted history about Pythagoras and his school and his influence on Western mathematics with his thoughts, colours, astronomy so that we get an understanding of how he influenced the world from a very early age.

OR

We can go into life and teachings of Pythagoras, his trips round the Mediterranean and his knowledge of languages; his admission into the Egyptian esoteric schools, having been initiated into the Elysian Mysteries. How he learned from the Egyptians practical uses of mathematics and how he returned to Greece to found his own schools. How he developed systems of learning and coined the word philosophy. How he killed his own pupil Hippasus by drowning for discovering irrational numbers (something which Pythagoras denied existed).

This study can lead on to a study of numbers themselves – how the Romans followed the Egyptians, Babylonians and Greeks with their rigid systems, How the Arabic way with the zero opened up a new era for numbers and mathematics; the importance of the 3,4,5, triangle and its influence in Freemasonry. What that stands for and the development by the Hebrews of the Egyptian numerology by ascribing numbers to their different letters, therefore giving each letter and therefore each word a number. All words developed in patterns in families or from basic roots. The history and development of Gematria into the **Kabbalistic** tradition. Gematria and Geometry being rooted as ground measuring. Their separate and conjoint significations.

OR

The study of Pythagoras can also lead on to the various religions. Pythagoras lived in a very special Age – the sixth century BC – the birth of many of the world's old religions: **Zoroaster** founded the Persian's national religion; Confucius (**Kung Fu Zi**) taught the five virtues of humanity; **Lao Tzu** wrote the Book on the Way and its Power and **Taoism** was born; **Aesop** invented the moral fable; **Draco** codified the Laws of Athens, where the Temple of Athena was rebuilt in stone; **Nebuchadnezzar built** the Hanging Gardens of Babylon and took Jerusalem, deporting 3.000 Jews which led to the writing down of **Jewish faith** and history; Cyrus later allowed the Jews to return and Prince Gotama Siddhartha achieved

Enlightenment under the Bodhi tree, so becoming the **Buddha** and preaching the new way of living at Benares. We could look at the religion he was born into, **Hinduism** and examine **Mithraism** And the Cult of **Isis/Osiris**.

OR

The study of Pythagoras can also lead on to the various early Greek philosophers who followed him and took up his ideas as well as those who went before and were his contemporaries, Thales was also a great mathematician who is said to have first predicted a solar eclipse. We could study how he measured the height of the pyramids. Socrates and Plato could keep us going for weeks! We could touch on the main points of the Greek Philosophers, Democritus and his *Atomos*, (did he mean that which **cannot** be cut or that which **should** not be cut?) Anaxagoras, Anaximander, Anaximenes, Apollo, Aristarchus, Archeleus, Pythagoras' benefactor, and Aristophanes before passing on to the Bs!

These Questions have been devised to point your researches in the right direction. Although evident enthusiasm for our studies is a certain recommendation for advancement to a higher Grade, answers by you are not compulsory, but may be given to the College Co-ordinator of Studies or the Provincial Co-ordinator of Studies for comments.

The Provincial Co-ordinator of Studies.

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